

HOUSE BILL 1457

C2

6lr2364

By: **Delegates Vaughn and Mautz**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Land Surveyors – Qualifications for License – Education, Experience, and**
3 **Examination Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering and adding certain higher education, experience, and
5 examination requirements that certain applicants for a license to practice land
6 surveying must meet to qualify for a license; repealing certain dates after which, and
7 certain dates on or before which, certain applicants must possess a certain minimum
8 number of credit hours in certain land surveying–related courses, must have a
9 certain minimum number of years of certain experience in land surveying, or must
10 apply for a license to practice land surveying; authorizing the State Board of Land
11 Surveyors to allow a certain credit up to a certain maximum towards certain
12 experience requirements for certain applicants under certain circumstances;
13 requiring certain applicants to apply for a license on or before a certain date; and
14 generally relating to qualifications of applicants for a license to practice land
15 surveying.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Business Occupations and Professions
18 Section 15–305
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



Article – Business Occupations and Professions

15–305.

(a) In addition to the other qualifications for a license to practice land surveying, an applicant shall qualify under this section by meeting the educational, experience, and examination requirements set forth in subsection (b), (c), (d), [or] (e), **OR (F)** of this section.

(b) An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

(1) has graduated on completion of at least a 4–year curriculum **IN LAND SURVEYING THAT THE BOARD APPROVES** from a college or university that is accredited by, or is a constituent unit of an institution accredited by, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools or the equivalent regional accrediting association of other regional areas;

(2) [beginning on October 1, 2023, possesses a minimum of 32 credit hours of land surveying–related courses that the Board approves;

(3) (i) on or before September 30, 2017,] has at least 2 years of experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land surveying; [or

(ii) beginning on October 1, 2017, has at least 4 years of experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land surveying;] and

[(4)] (3) has passed the following examinations:

(i) fundamentals of surveying;

(ii) the principles and practice of surveying; and

(iii) unless excused by the Board, State–specific examination modules specified and approved by the Board that pertain to the practice of surveying in the State.

(c) **(1)** An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

[(1) applies for a license on or before December 31, 2023;

[(2)] (I) has graduated on completion of at least a 4–year curriculum **IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES OR APPLIED SCIENCES** from a college or university that is accredited by, or is a constituent unit of an institution accredited by, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools or the equivalent regional accrediting association of other regional areas;

1 ~~[(3) (i)]~~ **(II)** ~~[on or before September 30, 2017,]~~ **SUBJECT TO**
2 **PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, has at least 4 years of experience in land
3 surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the
4 applicant may be competent to practice land surveying; ~~[or~~

5 (ii) beginning on October 1, 2017, has at least 6 years of experience
6 in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to the Board that the
7 applicant may be competent to practice land surveying;] and

8 ~~[(4)]~~ **(III)** has passed the following examinations:

9 ~~[(i)]~~ **1.** fundamentals of surveying;

10 ~~[(ii)]~~ **2.** the principles and practice of surveying; and

11 ~~[(iii)]~~ **3.** unless excused by the Board, State-specific examination
12 modules specified and approved by the Board that pertain to the practice of surveying in
13 the State.

14 **(2) FOR EACH 30 SEMESTER HOURS OR ITS EQUIVALENT THAT AN**
15 **APPLICANT COMPLETES IN LAND SURVEYING-RELATED COURSES THAT THE BOARD**
16 **APPROVES, THE BOARD MAY ALLOW A 1-YEAR CREDIT TOWARDS THE EXPERIENCE**
17 **REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR A MAXIMUM OF 3**
18 **YEARS.**

19 **(D) (1) AN APPLICANT QUALIFIES UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE**
20 **APPLICANT:**

21 **(I) HAS GRADUATED ON COMPLETION OF AT LEAST A 4-YEAR**
22 **CURRICULUM FROM A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY THAT IS ACCREDITED BY, OR IS A**
23 **CONSTITUENT UNIT OF AN INSTITUTION ACCREDITED BY, THE MIDDLE STATES**
24 **ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS OR THE EQUIVALENT REGIONAL**
25 **ACCREDITING ASSOCIATION OF OTHER REGIONAL AREAS;**

26 **(II) HAS A MINIMUM OF 30 CREDIT HOURS OF LAND**
27 **SURVEYING-RELATED COURSES THAT THE BOARD APPROVES;**

28 **(III) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, HAS AT**
29 **LEAST 4 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN LAND SURVEYING THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO THE**
30 **BOARD AND THAT INDICATES TO THE BOARD THAT THE APPLICANT MAY BE**
31 **COMPETENT TO PRACTICE LAND SURVEYING; AND**

32 **(IV) HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING EXAMINATIONS:**

- 1 **1. FUNDAMENTALS OF SURVEYING;**
 2 **2. THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF SURVEYING; AND**
 3 **3. UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE BOARD, STATE-SPECIFIC**
 4 **EXAMINATION MODULES SPECIFIED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD THAT PERTAIN**
 5 **TO THE PRACTICE OF SURVEYING IN THE STATE.**

6 **(2) FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 30 SEMESTER HOURS OR ITS EQUIVALENT**
 7 **THAT AN APPLICANT COMPLETES IN LAND SURVEYING-RELATED COURSES THAT**
 8 **THE BOARD APPROVES, THE BOARD MAY ALLOW A 1-YEAR CREDIT TOWARDS THE**
 9 **EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR A**
 10 **MAXIMUM OF 3 YEARS.**

11 **[(d)] (E) (1)** An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

- 12 (i) [applies for a license on or before December 31, 2025;
 13 (ii)] is a high school graduate or the equivalent;

14 **(II) HAS A MINIMUM OF 30 CREDIT HOURS OF LAND**
 15 **SURVEYING-RELATED COURSES THAT THE BOARD APPROVES;**

16 (iii) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, has at least [12] **6**
 17 **years OF** experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates
 18 to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land surveying; and

19 (iv) has passed the following examinations:

- 20 **1. FUNDAMENTALS OF SURVEYING;**
 21 **[1.] 2. the principles and practice of surveying; and**

22 **[2.] 3. unless excused by the Board, State-specific examination**
 23 **modules specified and approved by the Board that pertain to the practice of surveying in**
 24 **the State.**

25 (2) For each **ADDITIONAL** 30 semester hours or its equivalent that an
 26 applicant completes in land surveying-related courses that the Board approves, the Board
 27 may allow a 1-year credit towards the experience requirements of paragraph (1)(iii) of this
 28 subsection for a maximum of 3 years.

29 **[(e)] (F) (1)** An applicant qualifies under this section if the applicant:

1 (I) APPLIES FOR A LICENSE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31,
2 2025;

3 [(i)] (II) is a high school graduate or the equivalent;

4 [(ii) beginning on October 1, 2023, possesses a minimum of 32 credit
5 hours of land surveying–related courses that the Board approves;]

6 (iii) subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, has at least [4] 9
7 years of experience in land surveying that is satisfactory to the Board and that indicates to
8 the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice land surveying;

9 (iv) has passed the following examinations:

10 1. fundamentals of surveying;

11 2. the principles and practice of surveying; and

12 3. unless excused by the Board, State–specific examination
13 modules specified and approved by the Board that pertain to the practice of surveying in
14 the State.

15 (2) For each 30 semester hours or its equivalent that an applicant
16 completes in land surveying–related courses that the Board approves, the Board may allow
17 a 1–year credit towards the experience requirements of paragraph (1)(iii) of this subsection
18 for a maximum of 3 years.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2016.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.